

Maritime Administration, DOT

§ 283.2

Administrator from such findings, interpretations or decisions in accordance with part 205 of this chapter.

(b) *Appeals of administrative determinations*—(1) *Policy*. An operator who disagrees with the findings, interpretations or decisions of the Contracting Officer with respect to the administration of this part may submit an appeal from such findings, interpretations or decisions as follows:

(i) Appeals shall be made in writing to the Secretary, Maritime Subsidy Board, Maritime Administration, within 60 days following the date of the document notifying the operator of the administrative determination of the Contracting Officer. In the appeal to the Secretary, the operator shall indicate whether or not a hearing is desired.

(ii) MARAD will notify the appellant in writing if a hearing is to be held and whether the operator is required to submit additional facts for consideration in connection with the appeal.

(iii) When a decision has been rendered, the Board shall notify the appellant in writing.

(2) *Appeal to the Secretary of Transportation*. An operator who disagrees with the Board may appeal such findings and determinations by filing with the Secretary of Transportation, a written petition for review of the Board's action. The petition shall be filed in accordance with provisions of the Department of Transportation pertaining to Secretarial review.

(3) *Hearings*. MARAD shall follow the Rules of Practice and Procedure (46 CFR part 201, subpart M) for hearings granted under 46 U.S.C. 1176 and 46 CFR 282.32.

PART 283—DIVIDEND POLICY FOR OPERATORS RECEIVING OPERATING-DIFFERENTIAL SUBSIDY

Sec.

283.1 Purpose.

283.2 Definitions.

283.3 Dividend policy criteria.

283.4 Alternate standards.

283.5 Notification and reporting requirements.

AUTHORITY: Sec. 204(b) Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (46 U.S.C. 1114(b)); Reorganization Plans No. 21 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1273) and No. 7 of 1961 (75 Stat. 840), as amended by Pub. L. 91-469 (84 Stat. 1026);

Dept. of Commerce Organization Order 10-8 (38 FR 19707, July 23, 1973).

SOURCE: 45 FR 37445, June 3, 1980, unless otherwise noted.

§ 283.1 Purpose.

(a) The rules of this part establish requirements for the declaration and payment of cash dividends by operators receiving operating-differential subsidy (ODS) under Title VI of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (46 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) (Act). This part shall be applicable immediately unless otherwise provided for in the operators' operating-differential subsidy agreement (ODSA).

(b) One of the purposes of the Act is to foster the development and encourage the maintenance of the United States Merchant Marine. Subsidized operators are required to maintain the financial ability to assure adequate and timely reinvestment in the merchant marine. The policy contained herein takes into consideration the operators' contractual obligations to construct and acquire vessels, retire debt obligations secured by ship mortgages and maintain adequate working capital. However, this policy also takes into consideration the operators' need to attract new capital to the industry by paying dividends which are appropriate in light of the operators' earnings and long-range financial position.

§ 283.2 Definitions.

(a) *Long-Term Debt* means, as of any date, the total notes, bonds, debentures, equipment obligations and other evidence of indebtedness that would be included in Long-Term Debt in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, less the balance of escrow fund deposits attributable to the principal of obligations guaranteed pursuant to Title XI of the Act, where deposits are required in accordance with § 298.33. Capitalized Lease Obligations shall be included, but deferred income taxes shall not be included.

(b) *Capitalized Lease Obligations* means, as of any date, an amount (excluding amounts already included in Long-Term Debt) equal to the sum of:

(1) The present value of all capital